



THE delights of outdoor life in summer call for the freshest and coolest wearing apparel. There has not yet been any prettier costume than the white skirt with its dainty, cool looking shirt waist. It looked for a time as if the one piece dress had entirely supplanted the separate skirt and blouse, but as the warm weather approaches we see that this is not the case. Indeed there has not been a season when the skirt was more in demand.

It is quite possible to have an entire summer wardrobe of separate skirts only, varying them in richness of material and wearing them with blouses of corresponding beauty. At first we looked in amazement at the skirts of chiffon, some of them with flounces bordered with fancy—they seemed ridiculous for summer wear—but since they have been adopted by the best dressed women and those who can wear them well they have found their place.

One of the prettiest skirts of this sort I have seen is of broadened chiffon showing small pink rosebuds in a garlanded effect of raised satin on a background of gray. There is a three inch band of gray squirrel fur around the bottom just above the hem.

Innumerable organdy skirts have appeared also in all the latest colors which make up so well in this material. The organdy skirts have

the deep hems which appear in all the organdy dresses and which do away with the necessity for extra skirts underneath. They are also trimmed with tucks and have pockets and wide belts like the more tailored piques and linens.

Of course one wears blouses of a corresponding thinness and preferably of the same material. As we see many of the newest summer shirtwaists with collars and yokes of organdy combined with a heavier lawn or dimity to form the body of the waist, so



we find skirts made after this manner also. For instance a pale yellow linen skirt has a strip of tucked organdy introduced midway the depth. There is no fullness over the hips, as the skirt fits on a plain smooth yoke. Slit pockets are marked with large pearl buttons and there is a wide belt of the linen, which fastens with the big buttons.

A season or two ago we had an in-

One-Piece Suit by No Means Supplants More Convenient Combinations—New Blouses Then and Comfortable White Sport Skirts of Wool Jersey Is a Much Favored Material

like the number of sweaters of gay and fascinating colors that appeared last year, but we shall not miss them, since their place has been taken by the newer and equally smart looking sleeveless coats for wear with the separate skirts.

It is after all the wash skirt that is most desirable for summer wear, those of cotton gabardine, a new Russian cord or white pique being most popular. All of these are made as simply as possible because of the laundry difficulties, and as a rule button the length of the front seam with large pearl buttons or are fastened with rustless snappers which do not show.

While there is little trimming on these skirts the pockets show all sorts of clever ideas intended to change the general effect. Patch pockets are most often seen on the strictly tailored skirts, but the new deep pockets, which have ends reaching quite up to the belt, are also much in evidence.

The newest sports skirts are made of wool jersey and this promises to be a much favored material for general wear, especially in the sand and khaki colors. Because wool jersey is such a soft fabric skirt of it always have skirting across the back to prevent an otherwise plain effect.

It seems odd to find skirts of finest



more folds also make their appearance as tucks. Nothing could be more effective for summer afternoon wear than a handsome skirt of this kind, a little less tailored perhaps than other models, but good looking with a thin white blouse, say of dotted Swiss or batiste.

Poplin Is Popular.

It is a good idea to have the skirt carry out the color of the sports coat. This can be done by stitching the side seams with thread of the color of the sleeveless coat or by piping with velvet of the coat's shade. For instance, a white cloth skirt has the side seams piped with black velvet to match a black velvet sports coat and a separate skirt of tan silk poplin has its seams stitched with brown thread of a deeper shade.

Silk poplin skirts are new this year and are much in demand, as poplin is a friendly fabric with many advantages. It does not crumple easily and it hangs gracefully and it can be laundered. New designs of this fabric show large satin blocks over the surface and again extremely wide satin stripes. Of course it is the wash skirt which claims first favor for summer wear, but many women like to have extra skirts in their wardrobe to vary the others.

One still sees the high waist lily brought about by the skirting, which is left to form a small ruffle above the belt and is held in place by the wide belt which fastens with the two ends crossing each other and buttoning on opposite sides. Very deep pouch pockets trim the sides of the skirt and are finished along the top with the same sort of ruffle overhanging the belt.

Cotton gabardine is being made up in apron skirts. These are really conventional plain skirts with tailored lines, but a short apron piece is introduced to hang back and front. The front apron is shorter than the one in the back and it has a deep hem which turns back to form pockets for various

purposes—holding the household keys or the knitting or the pocketbook, for instance. Indeed it has become so usual to keep the pantry locked since the price of food has soared so high that we are likely to see a revival of the old fashioned key basket or the fashion of hanging the bunch of keys at the belt. The will this new apron skirt come indeed into its own, for it will offer the combination of pockets and apron.

OIL CAKE FOR FUEL.

THE high price of coal and the shortage of ocean freight space have produced a condition in Egypt under which cottonseed oil cake is being used as a substitute for coal as fuel.

The crushing industry in Egypt produced a maximum of about 85,000 tons of cottonseed oil cake annually for which there was no local consumption. As the result of a lack of shipping facilities large stocks of cake accumulated in Egypt.

The high price of coal coupled with a desire for economy in its use induced experiments with local products as a substitute. The relation of the calorific value of cake to coal was found to be 1½ tons of cake to 1 ton of north country large coal.

The present price of coal in Egypt is about \$80 a ton. The price of oil cake has been fixed by the Government at various times during the past two years at figures ranging between \$25.50 a ton and the present price of \$15. Cake is now being largely used in place of coal in boiler plants, hotels, restaurants and private houses.

Boilers and stoves, it appears, are not detrimentally affected through the burning of cake. One large concern saves two men per boiler in burning cake instead of coal. Cake ash has a value as fertilizer of about \$25 a ton.

CAMP CLOTHES BEST FOR GROWING GIRLS

AFTER a girl reaches her thirteenth year she has a very uncomfortable time until she has come into her seventeenth. At that first age she is an awkward creature, all legs and arms, and she doesn't care whether she has freckles or not.

One day she ties two bows of ribbon in child fashion on her hair and the next she experiments with doing her hair up on her head, to the consternation of her anxious mother, who wants her to be still a child and fears she will mature too soon and lose her youth. Generally she is so mixed up in passing from her childhood days that she has earned all the reproaches flung at her in the fashion circle.

As a rule it is her clothes that cause most trouble, for she never seems to be the same size any two days in succession. That is why most mothers value tucks—you can let them out or put them in according to the overnight growth. Since girls' camps play an important part in the young girl's existence these days everything has been simplified. She is allowed to enjoy glorious months of freedom clad in comfortable bloomers and middie, and for the long sweet summer she can forget all about her appearance while she grows and learns in the wonderful outdoor life of the camp.

Most of these camps send out a list of requirements for the wardrobe. Middie seems to be the basis of the outfit, topping the serviceable bloomers. The bloomers are made in varying fashions and materials. The best looking are those of blue serge which are so full that they look exactly like short skirts stopping at the knees. Khaki bloomers are more for horse-back riding and for tramping.

As a rule the camp directors require uniformity of costume, as that seems to develop unity of camp spirit, and while all these summer outing schools, which they are in some degree, have adopted about the same sort of outfit, variety is provided by the class colors shown in neckties, hat bands and sweaters.

Items in the Camp Outfit.

The conventional camp outfit includes two pairs of navy serge bloomers, six or eight middies, some of white duck and at least two of unbleached cotton, a heavy warm sweater, a slicker, a warm bathrobe, one white duck skirt and one blue serge kilted skirt, a rubber blanket for sleeping out of doors, and a swimming suit. As to the shoes, usually two pairs of tennis shoes are needed, a pair of dancing slippers, tramping boots and of course the good shoes for travelling and an occasional visit to town or to wear to the village church.

The camp usually is close by water of some kind, a lake or stream or pond, and the delightful hour of the day is when these slim young creatures foregather in their swimming trunks, without stockings or sleeves, and dip in for the morning swim. They learn to row, to swim and to dive, and are like a glorious group of happy animals, glowing with health and spirits and good looks. It is then the thick, heavy bathrobe is needed, because it

must be donned to wear between the water and one's tent. Again, it is indispensable in the early morning when the camp wakes up and the sun is not as warm as it will be later.

It is best to have the bathrobe of heavy blanket cloth and of good dark colors; fancy frills have no place in the camp life. Only the strongest and most serviceable material can withstand such use. For the long hikes which are also part of the camp routine the tramping boots of stout calfskin are necessary.

In a few weeks the woods will be



filling with these outdoor girls, who after arriving at the camp will not see much other dress than the middie and bloomers until the day of departure is at hand. Their hair will be braided in two long braids and left to hang over the shoulders, with a ribbon band bearing the camp name worn tight around the forehead, and on Sundays only will the skirts appear.

The young girl adores this camp life, with its games, its exercise directed carefully by expert teachers, its classes and the gatherings at night around the campfire for songs and stories. The summer camp for girls ever grows in popularity, as the fortunate ones who have had one summer return to sing its joys and leg for another.

Of course every mother will not send her young daughter camping, and for such girls there are very lovely frocks. First on the list of practical dresses are the quaint old fashioned little things of calico and percale.

They are straight one piece garments with three little ruffles set on the bottom of the skirt, long sleeves and a round sailor collar and a folded

belt crushed around the rather long waist. I saw a pretty frock of this sort made of a very old fashioned calico with blue gray surface and tiny blue rings scattered over it. It was made as described and was just as pretty as could be.

Most mothers have hailed the middie blouse as one of the greatest boons ever invented for their growing, awkward girls. Certainly it is ideal for summer wear, but this year the problem of the laundry will be more difficult than ever; it makes no difference where one may be. The middie is at its best when starched and fresh, and this means frequent starching and lots of it. The pleated skirt with which it looks best requires the same treatment.

There are some extremely good looking silk middies with smocking and belts of contrasting colors which will be useful. One of these is made of pongee and has a yoke effect smocked with green, which color makes the belt and the collar and the tight fitting cuffs also. Flannel middies also are shown in bright and vivid hues—green, yellow and scarlet. Flannel middies are unusual and smart looking.

The flapper, as the English call the girl of this age, looks a little awkward in coat suits, not that that means much to the young person herself, for she puts in a hard piece for a suit and shirtwaist. She can wear these well. I know of nothing more becoming than the pleated plaid skirts and the straight jackets of a solid color. The combination of a blue and green kilted wool skirt and a dark blue serge jacket is good looking and serviceable.

However, most mothers stick to the one piece rather shapeless frock over which is worn a separate coat or wrap. This year the short little cape with a tight fitting vestee effect in front is much favored.

A very smart top coat is made in straight sweaters, lined with English covert cloth. It flares but there is no fullness anywhere, the flaring effect being obtained by the cut. Only large bone buttons trim it, and there is not even a belt to break its fine lines.

To be worn underneath this coat I saw a smart frock with a blue serge pleated skirt, buttoned onto a long waisted blouse of pongee ornamented with some good looking wool stitches as the only trimming. This costume would be ideal for travelling.

For dressier wear there is nothing more charming than the cotton voile dresses. One of sky blue organdy and voile is a delight. The two materials combine delightfully and are soft and pretty together. This particular frock had the bottom of the dress made of the voile with some tucks just below the hip line. The organdy formed the top part and also the collar and frills on the bottom of the voile sleeves.

For a party dress nothing could be

daintier than white point d'esprit with frills of white organdy spaced on the bottom of the skirt at distances sufficiently far apart to show plenty of the thin dotted material. A little jacket forms the waist over an underbustle of the net and is trimmed with the same narrow frills seen on the skirt.

A snail of pink satin is crushed about the waist and ends in short loops at the side. This is a charming dress for church wear as well as for party occasions. Worn with white shoes and stockings and a wide brimmed hat it would make any little girl a radiant summer vision.

There seems to be a revival of fashions of the long ago in young girls' clothes this year. The funny little sugar loaf hat has returned, with its narrow brim and its high crown. I have seen it only as yet in the yellow leghorn, but it looks just as if it used to look with its wreath of small flowers encircling the base of the crown and with its streaming ribbons hanging at the back. These little hats are brought out to companion the calico frocks of yesteryear evidently.

It is the utility hat which must be the substantial one in the growing girl's outfit. If it could be made of very strong material, indeed it would be welcome. First, it should be of a design which will not get out of shape soon. Straight of brim and with little trimming to crush or fade it is at its best for all occasions.

Hair ribbons have become a serious consideration when it comes to the account the fact that two and a half yards are required for the two bows considered correct for the plaited braids. There is a delightful fashion of hair dressing which young English girls affect. The hair is drawn up from the back of the head and puffed sufficiently in front to be becoming and tied with one ribbon bow on top of the head. The rest of the hair is allowed to flow freely in the back except that half way down the middle of the strands it is caught together with a round or square barrette.

Still another effective arrangement especially good for hot weather is that of braiding the hair in two parts and the intertwining the braids around the head. A wide ribbon bow is caught through the barrette and pinned in place in the back to fill in that part of the back of the head apt to look bare without some such arrangement.

A delightful play apron, a knitting bag and a sunbonnet make a cretonne set for country use which most young girls will hail with joy. One of the pleasures of camp life is the knitting circles, where everybody teaches everybody else a new stitch, and much is accomplished for the needs of the soldiers in the way of sweaters, socks, mufflers and wristlets. It is for holding the knitting or garden tools that these attractive sets have been devised. The aprons have deep pockets.



A pique skirt, one of striped baronette satin, one of navy blue shantung, one of tucked organdy and one of Georgette with satin folds.

THE CLOSET IDEAL

THOSE of us who wish they were queens and princesses perhaps think that the ideal closets would not be a closet at all, but a huge and elaborately arranged room, perhaps a whole wing in the royal sleeping quarters, where the mistress of the wardrobe and her trusted assistants should have no thought save that of guarding the enormous wardrobe and where a dozen skilled needlewomen and a tailor or so would be constantly at work keeping everything in repair. Some of you, you know, dream on a very pretentious scale.

But there is a far cry between this wardrobe of our castles in the air and the rather inadequate little closet that most of us have to contend with. However, one need not be a princess or a queen or even a person of wealth to have a clothes closet that approaches the ideal.

In fact, in a good many rather simply built houses that have been planned lately the bedrooms are supplied with closets that are a joy. In your old house you could at small expense remodel your clothes closets in such a way that the keeping of your clothes would become simpler and pleasanter than it is at the present time.

To begin with, the ideal closet should have outside ventilation. If possible it should have a window. The new closets are made that way, and it might be practicable to have a small window placed in the side of your present old type closet. This makes it possible to see your way about. It also makes it possible to ventilate and air the closet and it helps enormously in keeping moths from flying about your clothes or possibly laying eggs there, because these pests, dislike the light.

To light the closet by night there should be an electric light fixture. Sometimes these are so arranged that they go on automatically, after the night switch has been turned, when the closet door is opened and are turned off again when the door is closed.

Many new closets are made with long pier glasses on the inside of the doors. This is convenient in the room where a pier glass on the outside of the closet door or elsewhere in the room would be out of the decorative scheme.

The interior decorator now has something to say about the closet as well as the rest of the room. Closets are no left unapparelled and crude as formerly.

The color scheme of the room is continued in them. Usually the shelves are finished in the same way as the woodwork of the room, with an additional coat of varnish or enamel so as to make them more easily cleaned.

There should be an abundance of dress and coat hangers arranged on a metal rod so that the skirts of the dresses will not drag. Tissue hangers are sometimes padded and covered with silk or chintz to match the rest of the room and sometimes they are scented with sachet powder.

For shoes there is usually a special closet or a built in set of drawers. If the closet is large this set of drawers may be within the closet. Sometimes the lower shelves of the closet are fitted with little cubby holes large enough to contain a pair of shoes; this is protected by a chintz curtain run on a brass rod.

HOUSES WITHOUT NAILS.

IN Alberta, Canada, there is a village where houses have been constructed without nails.

The houses were built by Ruthenian immigrants. The buildings are of the typical Ruthenian style—log, pitched, roofed, thatched and wide in the eaves.

Even the door, an affair of slender twigs woven and laced together, swings on home made hinges and is latched with a wooden nail. The floor is of hewn logs unnailed. The roof is a wonderful fabric of poles and woven wheat straw, ten inches thick, packed tight and solid, and laid with such care that it will endure a weather for twenty years.